

**SPAM CONTROL SYSTEM REQUIRING UNAUTHORIZED SENDERS
TO PAY POSTAGE THROUGH AN INTERNET PAYMENT SERVICE
WITH PROVISION FOR REFUND ON ACCEPTED MESSAGES**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0052] An e-mail service system that maintains close cooperative interaction with a payment service system to provide the capability to control unsolicited e-mail messages commonly known as spam is coupled to an independent e-mail provider, typically by the ID/e-mail address and password on that independent e-mail account. Upon receiving messages from the independent e-mail provider, the e-mail service system checks whether this sender either has paid at least the preset amount by the recipient or is on the recipient's exception list. If both are negative, the e-mail will be rejected with an e-mail notification. The rejection e-mail can be sent to this sender of the original e-mail either directly from the e-mail service system or alternatively through the independent e-mail system. The payment to the recipient can be automatically cancelled when the recipient replies to the e-mail or adds the sender to the exception list.

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